

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF: [REDACTED],  
Claimant

Reg. No.: 2009-18185  
Issue No.: 1005  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Load No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
May 21, 2009  
Wayne County DHS (19)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; MSA 16.409 and MCL 400.37; MSA 16.437 upon the Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on May 21, 2009. The Claimant personally appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close the Claimant's family Independence Program (FIP)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. The claimant was a FIP and FAP recipient.
2. On February 10, 2009, the department conducted a review of the claimant's FIP and FAP.
3. On February 10, 2009, the department requested verification of a job ending.  
(Department exhibit 2).

4. On March 10 2009, the department closed the claimant's FIP for lack of verification.
5. On March 13, 2009, the claimant filed a request for a hearing.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 8 USC 601, et seq. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FIP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3101-3131. The FIP program replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program) is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

In the instant case, the claimant failed to provide the requested information. At the hearing the claimant testified that she had sent the requested information by mail. However, there was no way to verify that the claimant had indeed sent in the requested information and this ALJ cannot find that she did in fact send it to the department.

The department did not close the claimant's FIP till March 10, 2009, twenty eight (28) days after requesting the information.

**Timeliness of Verifications**

**CDC, FIP, FAP**

Allow the client 10 calendar days (**or** other time limit specified in policy) to provide the verification you request. If the client cannot provide the verification despite a reasonable effort, extend the time limit at least once.

Verifications are considered to be timely if received by the date they are due. For electronically transmitted verifications (e.g., fax, email), the date of the transmission is the receipt date.

Verifications that are submitted after the close of regular business hours through the drop box or by delivery of a DHS representative are considered to be received the next business day.

Send a negative action notice when:

The client indicates refusal to provide a verification, **or**  
**The time period given has elapsed and the client has not** made a reasonable effort to provide it.

Here, the Department granted over twenty-eight days to complete the information. I find that the Department was correct in closing the claimant's FIP.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, **AFFIRMS** the Department's action in the instant case.

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/s/  
Michael J. Bennane  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 06/26/09

Date Mailed: 06/26/09

**NOTICE:** Administrative Hearings may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. Administrative Hearings will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's

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motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request.

The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Decision and Order or, if a timely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the rehearing decision.

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